



Catholic Archdiocese of Durban
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ARCHDIOCESE OF DURBAN

33RD WORLD YOUTH DAY

LISBON

AUGUST 2023

THEME:

“MARY AROSE AND WENT WITH HASTE.” (LUKE 1:39)

To all Parish Priests, Parish Pastoral Councils and Young people in the Archdiocese of Durban.

Since 1997 the Youth Commission of the Archdiocese of Durban has organised the Pilgrimages to the World Youth Day, a pilgrimage experience that is attended by Youth and Young Adults from all over the World. More than 355 Young People from all over the Archdiocese of Durban have went to this awesome pilgrimage experience. Many Young People who went to the World Youth Day had grown spiritually; they became involved in their parishes, deaneries and in the Archdiocesan level.

We would like to invite you, Young People, to this yet another awesome experienced of the World Youth Day planned for Lisbon, in Portugal 2023.

Therefore, we would like to encourage you, Parish Priest together with Parish Pastoral Council and executive of Young People, to choose a suitable Young Person/s, who are interested, prepared spiritually and ready to participate fruitfully in this pilgrimage and share their experiences.

From the past experience we have learned that the following preparatory steps are absolutely necessary:

1. All applicants must be interviewed and approved by the World Youth Day organising team of the Archdiocese of Durban.
2. An applicant must be recommended **in writing by the Parish Priest, supported by the Pastoral Council and Youth executive of the Parish.**
3. Parish Priest together with Parish Pastoral Council must choose Young person/s; who are active in the parish and who are prepared to offer their services in the parish, Deanery and Archdiocesan

level when they return. A potential candidate will be required to sign and submit the commitment document which will be sent.

4. Applicant/s must write a letter of Motivation stating why they should be accepted for the pilgrimage. It must state what they are currently doing in the parish, as well as why they feel that the pilgrimage to Lisbon will do to help them in their faith journey. It must state what they are willing to do on their return. The letter must accompany their application form.
5. The Archdiocese is NOT in a position to fund any pilgrim; therefore, it is for the Parish Priest and the Parish to find ways and means of fundraising for their potential candidate/s.
6. Compulsory: Successful candidate/s will be required to **ATTEND MEETINGS AND PRAYER EVENTS ORGANIZED BY THE WORLD YOUTH DAY TEAM TO PREPARE FOR THE PILGRIMAGE.**

Please note the following criteria for choosing prospective pilgrims:

- They must be between 18 – 35 years old as of August 2023.
- They must be unmarried.
- They can be working or student.
- They must have the valid Passport which does not expire before August 2023.
- They must organise for themselves the spending money or have a financial support for the duration of their stay in Lisbon, Portugal.
- You must have received all the three sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist)
- The deposit money is not refundable.
- **If the pilgrim/s does not make the deadline for each payment, they will be required to leave the pilgrims group immediately.**

We have 30 places available. Places will be allocated on a first come first serve first served basis subject to the above criteria and conditions being met.

The costs for this World Youth Day pilgrimage, at the moment we do not have an estimation, because the travel agencies said they will only get the prices for 2023 at the beginning of January 2022. The last World Youth Day in Panama the estimation was + - R35,000.00, therefore for now we will use that estimation for Lisbon, in order to help on how much, you must look at when fundraising. **BUT REMEMBER THAT THIS IS NOT FROM ANY TRAVEL AGENCY BUT MYSELF Fr Phumlani Makhaye.** Once I receive the pricing from the travel agency that we will use I will give you the exact amount.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE PILGRIMAGE APPLICATION IS 30TH OF OCTOBER 2021.

Please make sure that your application form with the relevant letters is submitted to the Diocesan Chancery no later than the above date. Please do not send it via email, it must be a hard copy.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE APPLICATION.

1. Your personal written motivational letter with a parish stamp with your signature and the Parish Priest signature.
2. The testimonial letter from the parish priest, which will include letter-head, Parish Stamp and the priest signature. The testimonial letter must indicate that you are Baptised and confirmed if possible with the dates.
3. The copy of your Identity and Passport.
4. The completed application form. (

NB: PLEASE DO NOT MAKE EXTRA COPIES OF THIS FORM, IF YOU NEED EXTRA FORMS CONTACT THE YOUTH CHAPLAIN.

If you have any queries or questions about the World Youth Day Pilgrimage, please do not hesitate to contact Fr Phumlani Makhaye at the Chancery;

Email: chaplain@aodyouth.co.za.

Cell number: 072 892 3204.

Chancery Number: 031 303 1417.

Kind Regards

**Fr. Phumlani Makhaye
Diocesan Youth Chaplain
Archdiocese of Durban
072 892 3204**